

# CHARACTERIZING THE NARCOTIS FLAGELLUM TO AN INNER AND INTERNATIONAL SCALE

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**Abstract:** *The consumption of narcotics is one of the problems the international world is confronted with nowadays; its direct or indirect effects lead to the conclusion that it represents a worrying phenomenon meant to be taken into account by the international programs of co-operation.*

*In contrast with the mature population, the younger population is much more receptive to the new, much more attracted by new experiments and, consequently, by risks. The narcotics flagellum is one of the most complex, profound and dramatic phenomena met with in the contemporary world.*

**Keywords:** *narcotic, traffic, consumption, organized groups, profit*

Fighting against the traffic and the illicit consumption of narcotics have represented and still represent – at the national as well as at the international scale – a complex social problem whose manifestations, repercussions and solutions are seriously taken into consideration by the institutionalized organs and by the public opinion as well, as this phenomenon proves to be a very serious and dangerous aspect in considering the health of the population and the economical and social stability as well as the a good evolution of the democratic institutions of the states.

At present, the production and the consumption of narcotics have recorded an extraordinary boom derived from the profits obtained from the illicit traffic controlled by very well organized groups. The old geographical areas where there plants for obtaining narcotics were cultivated drew the attention of the traffickers who have taken over this habit and transformed it into a well organized activity.<sup>1</sup>

In Africa, Asia and Latin America the money obtained from illicit selling of narcotics is used for the acquisition of weapons and for supporting wars and rebellions.

The mountainous region at the border between Thailand, Burma and Laos – known as the "Golden Triangle" – has been conquered by the narcotics traffickers.

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<sup>1</sup> C.E. Ștefan, (2006), *Narcotics Flagellum*, Cermaprint Printing House, Bucharest, pp. 12.

The large fields could survive only because the area was semi-savage, the population was semi-nomadic and the access to the area was very difficult because of the jungle-like vegetation. All the authorities' efforts to stop the cultivation of opium-containing drug/ opiate poppy were doomed to failure, and this happened because of the poverty of the population that economically live on these cultivated fields by obtaining very low but certain incomes as compared to the gorgeous sums of money resulted from the traffic with drugs.<sup>2</sup>

The political and military instability, as well as the poverty the population live in made it possible for the traffickers of narcotics to master the area known as the "Golden Crescent" – Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran. It is in this area that the semi-nomadic population – that enjoy some certain incomes from the illicit traffic with narcotics –cultivate large fields of opiate poppy and cannabis which the traffickers turn into the famous "Persian Heroine."<sup>3</sup>

Another country seriously affected by the invasion of the narcotics and by the number of consumers is India. The large territory of the country, the length of the maritime and land borders could not allow the authorities to exercise a drastic control over the circulation of goods, etc. This handicap has immediately been speculated by the drugs traffickers who, at the beginning, used to use India as a transitable country for the narcotics brought from the "Golden Triangle"; afterwards, they focused their attention on the population, and that is how the number of consumers increased continually.<sup>4</sup>

As concerns this socially destructive phenomenon – and not only – the international bodies tried to create a more performing and unitary narcotics fighting system.

Taking into consideration the evolution of the phenomenon concerning the illicit traffic and consumption of narcotics at a world scale, it results that they also influenced their transgressions in Romania, as well. Romania has been permanently concerned with the accomplishment of the obligations assumed when concluding several international conventions, by adapting her legislation accordingly.

Romania is a signatory party of the 1988 Convention fighting against the illicit traffic of narcotics and psychotropic substances, of the 1961 Convention on narcotics, as it was modified by the 1972 Protocol and by the 1971 UN Convention, concerning psychotropic substances.

The bilateral instruments regarding the 2003 Mutual Agreement on the extradition – between the European Union and the States – and on Mutual Assistance were concluded in 2007. They have been ratified by both countries but

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<sup>2</sup> For more details see Boroi, A; Neagu, N.; Sultănescu, V.R. – Offences Stipulated by Law No 143/2000 on the Fighting against the Illicit trafic and consumption, Rosetti Printing House, Bucharest, 2001, pp. 13.

<sup>3</sup> C.E. Ștefan, *op. cit.*, p. 13.

<sup>4</sup> See V. Bercheșan; C. Pletea, (1998), *Narcotics and the Narcotics Traffickers*, Paralela 45 Printing House, Pitești.

are not yet in force.

The Romanian legislation regarding the precursory is in conformity with the EU specific legislation.

Romania is a party in the UN Convention against Organized Transnational Criminality, in the three additional Protocols and in the UN Convention against Corruption.

Our country has become more and more interesting for the nets involved in narcotics traffic, especially in the hashish imported from Africa and of the cocaine imported from the Southern America toward the Eastern Europe.

Romania is included in the so-called *Balkan Route* trafficking the heroine coming from Turkey toward the Western markets via three of the five channels of this route:

1. Turkey (Istanbul) - Romania (Constantza, on the Black Sea - Bucharest - the sub-Carpathian zone toward the West - Arad) - Hungary - Slovakia - the Czech Republic - Germany - Holland;
2. Turkey - Bulgaria - România (the Russe Customs - Giurgiu - Bucharest - the sub-Carpathian zone toward the West - Arad) - Hungary - Austria - Germany - Holland;
3. Turkey -Bulgaria - Romania - the Ukraine - Poland - Germany.

In the International Narcotics Control of the Strategic Report (INCSR)<sup>5</sup> it is reported that "Romania is not the main source of illicit narcotics, but it is a transitable country for narcotics, finding itself on the traditional route of the Northern Balkans, used for the transport of the opiate derivatives, as opium - a morphine and heroine basis - from, Afghanistan via Central and Western Europe."

The capital is known to be the main zone for the traffic and narcotics consumption. That is why there were intensified the programs concerned with heroine and synthetic drugs consumers; the police and the government authorities have modernized the methods of collecting the data, having registered higher narcotics captures.

For the land transport they use both freight trucks or passengers vehicles. Still, the narcotics - and especially heroine - are introduced in the country through the Constantza Harbour - on the deck of commercial maritime ships - and through the customs at the border with the Moldavian Republic. They are also introduced through the international airports of the country. Once in Romania, the narcotics are directed to either North-West - through Hungary - or to West - through Serbia. The police estimate that 80% of the narcotics that enter Romania arrive in the Western Europe.

Romania also finds herself on a reverse transitable route, as well: from the Northern and Western Europe to East. A large quantity of precursory chemical

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<sup>5</sup> The International Narcotics Control of the Strategic Report (INCSR) delivered on February 27, 2009 [www.ana.gov.ro](http://www.ana.gov.ro).

substances cross Romania from the countries of the Western Europe toward Turkey.

Unfortunately, no area of the globe, where the geographical, social and political permitted, was avoided by the presence of the traffickers of narcotics, who, at low prices succeeded in cultivating and turning the illicit narcotics fields in consumption, trading them at exorbitant prices, collecting fabulous profits.

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